From Spark to Space

HAMATEUR CHATTER

One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - - since 1917

Volume 10 No. 2 - Mar., '02

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From The President's Desk

Dave DeFebo - WB9BWP

In a couple of weeks (weekend of March 16) MRAC will run an on the air celebration of our 85th anniversary. Tom Schulte KB9RLB is coordinating the effort. He needs a few more names of people who want to operate. You get to do it from home. What could be easier than that? Call or email Tom about what times and bands you want to operate. He will fill you in on all the details. Here is our chance to tell the world who we are.

Paid your club dues yet? There is a renewal form on the club web site (www.qsl.net/mrac - you do check out the club's web site don't you?). It was also in the Chatter a couple of months back. You MUST fill out the form, do not just throw money at the Treasurer. If you are not paid up by the end of February you are no longer considered a member. We do rosters every year now so don't be left out. How do you know if you paid? Starting in 2002, the Treasurer should provide a membership card to everyone when their dues is paid (you fill it out yourself - we can't do everything for you). Didn't get a card? Talk to the Treasurer. Not happy with the way the club is being run? Read on...

Every year the club has elections. Elections happen at the May meeting (also the auction - plug) with nominations at the April meeting. There are 4 officers and 5 directors. They all have 2 year terms. Three directors have terms staggered from the rest. Last year we elected 3 directors. This year we elect 4 officers and 2 directors (with the 3 from last year carrying over - continuity you know). After being President for 4 years, it's time for me to sit back and watch someone else run things. Too bad I can't get a deal like Milwaukee County politicians and collect a 6 figure pension and a few years worth of sick pay. Anyway, my not running has nothing to do with the club or any people, it has to do with me needing time for other stuff. What, I'm asking for time

Continued on pg 2

Milwaukee Area Nets

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Daily	6-8 AM	14.290	Wisconsin/Florida (SSB)
Daily	6:30 PM	3.645	WI Slow Speed CW Traffic
Mon-Fri	8:30 AM	3.965	After Breakfast Club (SSB)
Mon.	**8:00 PM**	**3.994**	**Tech Net NEW**
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.445	Emergency Net
Mon.	9:00 PM	146.670	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Net
Tue.	9:00 AM	50.160	6 Mtr. 2nd Shifter's Net
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.250	Badger Contesters (SSB)
Tue.	8:00 PM	7.035	A.F.A.R. (CW)
Wed.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 Internat. (Milwaukee Ch.) (SSB)
Wed.	8:00 PM	147.270+	Weather & Swap net.

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Thu	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Interest Net
Thu.	9:00 PM	146.91 -	Computer Net
Fri	8:30 PM	28.490	MRAC W9RH 10 meter Net (SSB)
Fri.	9:00 PM	147.045+	W9RH 2 mtr. FM Net after 10 mtr. Net
Sat	9:00 PM	146.910-	Saturday Night Fun Net
Sun.	8:30 AM	3.985	QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Sun.	10:00 AM	443.800+	FM-38 link to 146.88 Baraboo SWAP Net
Sun.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 International (Milwaukee Ch.) (SSB)
Sun.	8:00 PM	146.91-	Information Net
Sun.	9:00 PM	146.91-	Swap Net

Two meter (FM) Frequencies are 600 KHz offset repeaters. FM 38 is + 5 MHz. Ten meter (SSB) frequencies are upper sideband (USB).

Prez Cont. from pg. 1

off when I keep asking others to pony up some time for the club? Well in the 34 years I have been a member of the club (I joined before I was born) I have been an officer or director for about 25. I also taught license classes for 20 years. I have been to around 15 Field Days, 20 or so Christmas parties, manned Superfest tables 4 years, weathered our only political firestorm of recent history (1980), and a bunch of other stuff. I'm not bragging, just showing that I need some time off. Actually I'm not going to be resting, I am in the midst of working, with others, to create a company to pay (since no other company will) my way for the next 20 years or more (anyone with a bunch of money to invest, just let me know). That will take a lot of time. I don't get on the radio as much as I would like. I need some time for that. I still have the club photo album/scrapbook I'm working on (and will be for some time). I may do some classes again. Who knows.

It turns out our Vice President Matt KB9PRC is also not running for re-election. He's young and still gets involved in too many things, but is starting to understand he can't do all of them either. Ken Eggert W9MOT is also not running for re-election as Director. Ken has been President, Vice President, Treasurer and Director (I don't know if he was ever Secretary) more than 1 term each and would also like to step aside (and with recent by-laws change we need one less Director anyway). So far, I can't speak for the other officers and directors. Everyone has done a great job and I'm sure the next batch will too. John Kraak KF9XL, Sherm Swanson KB9Q, and Jack Hughes W9ULA are the nominating committee. Their job is to try to find at least one person for each available spot. Can they put your name down?

Time to rant a little. Dick McNew WB9PTC has been helping people get and upgrade their amateur radio license for many years. Long before he became part of this club. For his efforts MRAC presented a certificate to Dick a year or two ago thanking him on his educational efforts. For the last year and a half Dick has been using our repeater

Dave DeFebo
WB9BWP

Our President

(since we got it working better) for twice weekly code practice. For the last couple of months Dick got John, KB9SXH to help out with the beginner part of code practice. Dick has been having health problems for a while and the last thing he needs is to worry about doing code practice. A couple of weeks ago Dick and John completed a round of practice and Dick said he wanted to stop. Now, we often like to think we are an educational type of radio club (what with classes, testing, and educational programs). We also have a lot of HF operators and even a lot of Extra class members. People always talk (whine) about code being eliminated and people not learning code anymore. I do not want to get into a discussion about the merits of CW one way or the other, but I do want to challenge anyone reading this, member or not, if you feel people should learn CW and become proficient at CW, here is your chance. Put your money (actually your time) where your mouth is. Spend an hour a week (or maybe with enough help, an hour every couple of weeks) and hold your 2M FM radio's mike up to a code oscillator speaker and HELP PEOPLE LEARN CODE. I don't want to hear anyone complain about people not knowing CW if they will not step up and teach. For those who say they don't have the time, let's compare schedules and see.

I could use the same argument in the last paragraph for getting more volunteers to help with our theory classes. Patrick Moretti W9UQ has been involved in the last few classes covering Technician through General on to Extra. Mark Tellier AB9CD who took the Tech class last year, got his Extra and has helped at the last 2 classes. How about a few more people? We are always getting requests for classes of every license class. We need people to teach. I don't want to burn out Patrick and Mark and besides, more people mean more classes. More classes mean more people getting or upgrading their license. That sounds good to me. Oh, and about that time thing I spoke about, Between 1976 and 1996 when we last ran classes, I taught every season except 2 (mainly Novice and then Tech classes, but also some General and Advanced). With enough people, that means the work gets spread around and no one (or two) person(s) has to do it all. Now tell me you don't have any time to help.

Don't want to do code practice or teach theory classes? How about managing our Field Day and contest efforts? We've got plenty of jobs for all sorts of people. Just let me know. Thanks in advance.

Board Meeting 11/26/2001

MRAC Board Meeting 1/28/2002

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

The meeting minutes from November were read and approved as written.

Treasurers report — Total liquid assets as of 1/15/2002 are $4,352.32 plus the club CD, which is worth $5,666.24. This brings our total to $10,018.58. This of course includes the new dues that have been coming in for 2002.

Special thanks were given to Mark, AB9CD for having us. Mark is one of our volunteer teachers for Ham Radio classes and was kind enough to invite the board to his house for the meeting and to discuss the class schedules and ideas for the future.

The February board meeting will be at Tom's, KF9PU QTH. March is still to be decided, April at Dave's, WB9BWP, May at Jim's, WB9LNU and June at a restaurant so both the old and new board members can be together.

Matt, KB9PRC, says that in February he hopes to do a talk on installing a dipole antenna in your attic. The March meeting will be audience participation night, how you got started in radio and who helped you do it. April will have nominations for new club officer and directors. May will be the annual club auction night and elections. June ????

VEC report — Both Tom, KF9PU and John, KF9XL, say all is going well. John has a lot of enthusiastic VE's. He says they had a nice turn out at the West Allis Swapfest. Tom says the FCC is looking for your FRN number from now on when communicating with them. New comers to the hobby can still use their SS number.

Tom also says that last summer Steve Linn, a FCC representative that usually attended the NCVEC conference every year was killed in a car accident along with his wife. He had two children ages 9 and 11. The children are living with Steve's brother now. The VEC's are thinking of donating to a fund to help the children and are wondering if the club would be interested also? Tom says he will check that the fund for the children is legitimate, prior to making any kind of collection.

Christmas Party — 38 attended. Money wise, we did not take a loss on the party. John, WB9PSE, volunteered to check if Alioto's is available for the 2002 Christmas Party. Ted, WA9RDI, won the 10 meter radio and antenna.

Jim Tromblay - WB9LNU
MRAC Secretary

Brian, K9LCQ, says that Discovery World at the Milwaukee Museum is thinking of having a Ham Radio display that is operational. They need equipment and operators. Brian will find out more details. The Board had a short discussion about the use of our repeater for this display and maybe check with the Museum about a new site for the repeater on the Museum roof.

John, KF9XL, says that he has a request on the clubs telephone answer machine from an XYL that has a tower, antenna and rotor for sale and would like it removed from her home.

Classes — Mark, AB9CD, says that he and Pat, W9UQ, are ready to start the Extra Class at AES on Feb. 2nd. The class will run for 9 weeks. 10 people have paid to attend so far. Members pay $5.00 and non-members $20.00. Plus everyone must buy their own book and bring their own writing supplies. The teaching committee needs more volunteers. Classes will run from 12:30 to 2:30.

The club's special event 24 hour 85th. birthday celebration over the air using the W9RH call has several volunteers lined up already and still looking for more. Each club member can operate from their own shack on frequencies within their license class. Details for operating will be provided by Tom, KB9RLB.

The club is looking for a Field Day Chairman volunteer this year. WB9LNU will bring all the equipment as usual.

Dave, our president, will send in the ARRL annual survey on how the club is doing etc: PR — We had a table at the West Allis Fest. The South Milwaukee club wants to know if we are interested in coming to their fest and selling from the back of our cars. Dave, our president, has the new member package all together now. Existing members can get a copy at the club meeting. Dave has also instructed our treasurer to start using the new membership cards that we had printed for 2002. You must pick yours up at the meeting. MRAC will have a table at the AES Superfest. Dave has about 15% of the pictures entered into the clubs electronic photo album. The finished product will be a Micrsoft Powerpoint presentation. A free viewer is available!

Election Committee — John

Continued on pg 4

MRAC Club Meeting 1/31/'02

Previous meeting minutes were read and approved as written.

Treasurers report:

11/15/2001 - 12/15/2001 $4,052.01

12/15/2001 - 1/15/2002 $4,352.32

Plus the club CD $5,666.24 This excludes the VEC fund.

The mic was passed for all to I.D.

Dave - WB9BWP, our president, reports that the Christmas party had 38 people. The club came out ahead $199.18 this year. This helps make up for some of the loss we had in previous years.

Ted - WA9RDI, won the 10 meter radio raffle. The club made $ 188.00 on the raffle tickets.

All tolled, the club made $ 800.00 on raffles and auctions last year.

VEC report — Tom, KF9PU, reports that they had a good turn out at the West Allis Swapfest.

We will be testing at AES Superfest. John, KF9XL, says that there will be no testing on the last saturday of March. Instead testing well be on the first saturday of April while Superfest is going on.

Classes — Pat, W9UQ, reminded everyone that classes will start Feb. 2nd. and will be completed just before testing at AES Superfest.

The February meeting program will be a slide presentation on how to get your CORES number from the FCC. By Matt, KB9PRC.

The January program was by Dave, WB9BWP, on installation of vertical antennas at his QTH.

Dave auctioned off more stuff donated this time by the YL of W9PWG. He also reminded everyone that the May meeting will be the annual club auction night. You can auction off your own equipment as well as stuff donated to the club.

The club nominating committee will be looking for three officers, President, 1st. VP and Secretary. Also two directors. Pancho has indicated that he will run again as a director as well as continue with the Chatter. All nominations close on May 25th. If interested , please let someone in the nominating committee know.

John, KF9XL, says that he has received phone calls from various people looking for someone to help them sell a deceased HAM's equipment. Tom, N9UFJ, has volunteered to accept these calls and talk with the people involved on behalf of the club.

Field Day — The club is looking for a volunteer to be Chairman this year. Matt, KB9PRC, has volunteered to be our chief cook again this year. Jim , WB9LNU, will bring the equipment again this year. To date, we are assuming that Fred Linn, W9NZF, will be making the arrangements for us to use the depot again.

Dave reminded everyone to remember that the club birthday "On the Air" event will take place in March and all members that are interested should contact Tom, KB9RLB.

Jerry, WA9CGE, says to take note that Fred Linn, W9NZF, is in QST because he has been a member for 60 years.

Warren, K9IZV, says we have 36 in attendance at the meeting.

Our guest speaker was Don, K9QEN, he explained what is being done to set up a Ham Radio display at the Milwaukee Museum Discovery World. He is looking for volunteers and equipment.

The display can be made operational from time to time. They are looking for equipment from spark to present day. The equipment will be behind a glass wall for security.

Dave says the repeater will most likely need a new home in 2003 because the Eaton Co. will be moving out of the present building. So look for a new site!

The business meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim - WB9LNU,

Secretary

Minutes Cont. from pg. 3

Kraak, Sherm Swanson and Jack Hughes have volunteered to find members to run for all the officer positions and the directors positions. They have until April to twist our arms.

The final budget figures for 2001 are not ready as of yet. Preliminary figures show us about $250.00 in the black. The club made almost $900.00 last year on our auction and raffle etc: Special thanks to Tom, N9UFJ and Dave, WB9BWP and of course all the members who have donated very nice equipment to make the auction and raffle a success.

Repeater news.— The Eaton company may move in a year or so and we will have to start looking for a new site. Maybe the Milwaukee Public Library roof? Who knows what we may find? The club will be looking for a free site and one that is accessible to the repeater technical group. We will need a phone line and a tall roof so we do not have to contend with tower climbing. Ideas???

The Board will also determine if the repeater is a worth while effort since so few use it. Dave Karr from the Wisconsin Repeater association has offered to come and speak at a club meeting or board meeting to discuss possibilities for the repeater.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim WB9LNU, Secretary

Recent VE Exam Report

MRAC VEC held VE testing on Jan 26, 2002 at AES. There were 13 candidates, and 12 were successful in either upgrading or in qualifying for their first license. 13 elements were given, and all were passed. VE's who helped at the session included:

Doug Awe ---------- N9VA
Mark Bye ---------- KB9LDX
Gabriel Chido ------ WI9GC
Kent Christiansen - N9WH
Tom Czaja --------- KG9EE
Bob Immekus ------ W9CYI
Kate Kedney ------- KA9MWT
John Kraak --------- KF9XL
Dick McNew -------- WB9PTC
Norm McNew ------ KB9QL
Patrick Moretti ----- W9UQ
Sherm Swanson --- KB9Q
Jerry Thompson --- W9SFH

73,

John (KF9XL)

John Kraak - KF9XL

MRAC VEC A held VE testing on Feb 23, 2002 at AES. There were 13 candidates, and 10 received either an upgrade or qualified for their initial license. VE's helping out at the session included the following:

Doug Awe ---------- N9VA
Mark Bye ---------- KB9LDX
Gabriel Chido ------ WI9GC
Kent Christiansen N9WH
Tom Czaja ---------- KG9EE
John Kraak --------- KF9XL
Norm Mc New ----- KB9QL
Patrick Moretti ----- W9UQ
Sherm Swanson -- KB9Q
Mark Tellier --------- AB9CD
Jerry Thompson -- W9SFH

Please note that MRAC VEC A will not conduct an exam session in March, but will have two sessions in April:

April 6 - AES Superfest
April 27 - AES

73,

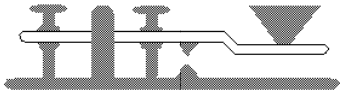
John (KF9XL)

John - KF9XL

MRAC VEC A Exam Schedule

NO Testing in March

Sat. . Apr. 6, 2002 ..... 9 AM .....AES
(AES Superfest)
Sat. . Apr. 27, 2002 ... 9:30 AM... AES
Sat. . May 25, 2002 ... 9:30 AM... AES
Sat. . Jul. 27, 2002 .... 9:30 AM... AES



Field Day Preparations

Have you made plans for Field Day, yet?

It's coming up **SOON** (**Sat. June 22nd and Sun. June 23rd**).

If you don't know much about it, let me give you a brief explanation of **Field Day**.

This is a time when we HAMs from all over the country go out to locations out in the sticks or public places to set up HAM stations and operate generally under Emergency conditions, to have fun and check out our Emergency preparedness.

In the past, just to name a few locations, our Club MRAC has set up stations at a NIKE base, a Boy Scout Camp and at the Cedarburg train depot which has been moved to Pioneer Village north of Cedarburg.

We've operated CW (international morse), phone (SSB and FM), and digital modes (packet, RTTY, and APRS) on various bands including: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 6 and 2 meters. We've even had operation via satellite. (So far we haven't had any moonbounce, spread spectrum, or ATV operations, maybe some year).

We've had many diferent types of stations set up to operate on and many different antenna setups including regular and trap dipoles, J-poles, verticals, beams, set up on various types of mounts including our own version of ladder tower.

We've had emergency power from gasoline generators, storage batteries, and solar panels.

This year we are privileged to have **Jerry Wahlen - WA9CGE**, who volenteered to head up the Field Day Committee. If you would like to help out either in the planning, setup,, food, operating or any other thing you can think of contact him by **phone**: **463-8667 or Email at: wahlen@netstream.net**

It looks like we may have the **Cedarburg Train Depot at Pioneer Village** again this year. It's an ideal location up on a hill, just north of a golf course. It's quiet, (electrically and otherwise). If it rains we can always operate from in the train

Continued on pg 7

MRAC Web site

Many predicted that the advent of the Internet meant the death of ham radio. Like many such prognostications in the past, it proved to be false. Indeed, the Internet has proven to be an enormous boon to ham radio. There is an incredible quantity and variety of information available via the Web and email. The problem is, how do you find it? Here is where the MRAC website comes in.

Our web site, located at http://www.qsl.net/mrac, is titled "The Information Home of the MRAC". Here you will find pages of information about the club: contact information, meeting dates, testing dates, club officers (with email addresses), archives of the newsletter, flyers to advertise classes and the club history. Also, you will find links to other club sites, online testing, and organizations like ARES and ARRL.

The one invention that has done the most to make the Internet useful to the average person is hyperlinking: being able to create documents or graphics that are linked to other documents to provide detail or cross-referencing. Click on the word "meeting" and you are quickly taken to the page listing meeting times and locations. Press the "back" button and you are back where you left off. Preparing web pages is within the ability of anyone who can type, because of the many easy-to-use tools available, many for free. Our web site is prepared entirely using Netscape Composer, for instance.

Which brings me to the point of this paragraph: anyone (meaning YOU) can contribute something to our web site. You can email the information to me, or call me on the landline and I,ll put it in writing. Station descriptions, memorable QSOs, rare DX and all good stuff. Sketches on napkins and the backs of envelopes can be scanned into files we can display. Believe me, we relatively new hams benefit from your experience. If you have your own web site and you think it might be of interest to club members, send me the url (the web address), and I will add a link to it from our site. If you are an avid web surfer already, I am also interested in ham web sites you like to visit. Because it is releatively easy to create a web site, there are lots of them (someone told me they found 7 MILLION sites containing the word "antenna"), but there is no master catalog, so finding good information can take some effort. We can make that easier for ourselves and others by providing links on our site.

I volunteered to take on the club web site because I like messing around with this stuff (8 hours a day at the keyboard is never enough), and also because it was something I could do for the club within the time and money restrictions having young children creates. Help with new content and comments about the old stuff are always welcome.

Howard Parks KB9VJS
hparks@execpc.com

So, Who Do You Know Wants To Run For Office?

The MRAC nominating committee would like to report the following progress in its search for a slate of candidates for MRAC's upcoming elections in May:

President———1 Candidate

Vice President———1 Candidate

Secretary———1 Candidate (Maybe)

Treasurer———1 Candidate

Director (2 Positions)———2 Candidates

MRAC needs some good people to step forward and keep the club going into its 86th year and beyond. Won't YOU be that person?

Please contact:

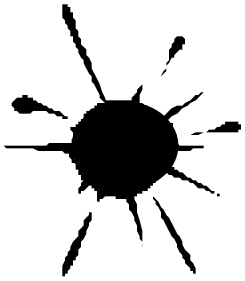
Jack Hughes, W9ULA
414-289-0997

Sherm Swanson, KB9Q
262-662-3824

or, John Kraak, KF9XL
262-786-2062

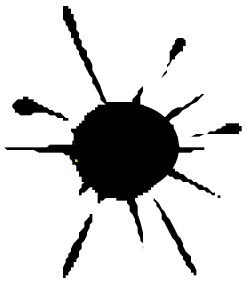
73, John (KF9XL)

John KF9XL



Just remember:

Sometimes you are the bug and Sometimes you are the windshield.



MRAC 85th Anniversary Special Event

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club was founded in January 1917 and will be 85 years old this January, 2002. To celebrate its birthday the MRAC will put the W9RH call on the air as a special event station. This will happen on March 16, 2002 from 0000UTC to 2400UTC, that is 6:00pm on March 15th to 6:00pm on March 16th.

How can you as members help? Well, we will need as many operators as we can get to help make this a successful event. Those who wish to operate will do so from their own location using their own equipment and using the call of W9RH/your call. You must operate within the limits of your license. That is if you are a general class you can only work in the general class bands, technician in the technician bands only. If you can only work the bands for an hour or so at a particular time that will be fine because we need operators for the full 24 hours. The bands that the W9RH call will be on are all the HF and VHF so that everyone, no matter what license classes, can operate. Some frequencies that will be used are 28.470, 14.270, 7.260 and 144.220, modes of operation will be CW and SSB. If you don't have a station at home try to get together with other club member and operate from their location. It's always nice to have two at a station, one for talking the other for logging.

You say you are unable to operate on the air? Well how about designing a certificate or qsl card? A certificate will be sent to all those who contact W9RH providing they include a 9x12 SASE and a QSL card to any DX station that might happen to ask for one. A printable certificate will be sent to those who send QSL information to W9RH @arrl.net via e-mail.

If you can help in any way contact me Tom Schulte - KB9RLB, at our next club meeting, via e-mail at KB9RLB@arrl.net or at 414-529-2512 after 4:00pm. Let's make this a success.

73,

Tom KB9RLB

The Week In Review

Pancho asked me to comment on the weekly E-mailing I produce called "The Week In Review." At last count, the mailing list includes 118 hams worldwide. It started out as a reminder for a now defunct Wednesday night FM simplex net and evolved from there. It is subtitled "Amateur Radio from KB9Q's Narrow Perspective" and I comment and expound on items in and sometimes out of the hobby that interest me. (I think that folks got tired of my items about battleships after I visited the USS Wisconsin, BB64, at Norfolk Virginia.) It also serves as a forum for the readers to report things that they are interested in, including but not limited to, their personal experiences with the hobby, other hobbies and interests and complaints. Benign items from you folks are published with names; if they are controversial I will get your permission or publish anonymously. Items in the latter category are discretely edited to eliminate the profane and defamatory! The last few months I've been perusing old QSTs on a CD ROM and occasionally include items dealing with the history of Amateur Radio. I am not an avid contester, but I enjoy 'tests because they evaluate the performance and capabilities of the station and the operator. (Without the competition, you could model a Field Day Site on a tabletop, or CRT, and say "this is what we will do in an emergency.") Thus, I do include a list of weekly contests that interest me. Since September 11, I have also taken the liberty of separately forwarding to the list "up close and personal" comments from my daughter that lives in New York City. If you think you would find all this amusing and want to get on the mailing list, E-mail me at kb9q@arrl.net. Include your call sign with the request. Be assured, it is easy to request removal from the list if you wish – it is all done manually!

73,

Sherm - KB9Q

Field Day Cont. from pg. 5

station. It is located **10 miles North of Cedarburg on Hwy-I**, just southwest of Fredonia. It sounds like quite a distance, but beleive me, it's worth it.

While there, visit Pioneer Village. It's quite worthwhile seeing,

We usually have some HAMs who spend the night operating or just enjoying the "out of doors". Patrick Moretti brought out his telescope last year and we were able to see sunspots during the day and view the moon and constellation at night.

If you do plan on staying, bring something comfortable to sleep on (depot benches are not the most comfortable), something warm because it sometimes gets cool, sunscreen lotion and mosquito repellant. Food is usually provided.

Usually people start arriving about 8:30 am to set up, then we start to operate around noon or 1:00 pm and operate 'til the same time the next day.

73,

Pancho - KA9OFA

Amateur radio and public service A winning combination

With spring almost here and summer just around the corner, that means it's time for another season of charity walks and runs.

These public service events provide hams an excellent opportunity to use their equipment and skills in a way that benefits the local community. In turn, the public gets the chance to see us in action and further their understanding of amateur radio.

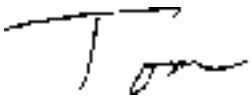
Depending on the size of your community, two or three dozen walks, runs, and rides may occur throughout the season. Of these, typically only a handful are large enough to warrant participation by amateur radio. However, they are great opportunities, and you should consider getting involved.

These events often require 15 to 20 ham volunteers, sometimes more. Hams assist the net control operator, ride in a SAG wagon or with a route captain, and man the rest stops. Each position is vital and gives you a chance to interact with event participants.

Those who prefer to walk or ride the course instead should consider taking along an H-T. Net control always appreciates an extra set of eyes on the route. This also provides you the opportunity to talk up amateur radio as you are pedaling or walking. The sight of your radio or antenna system can spark questions from other participants. Take a moment or two to explain amateur radio and how we are involved in the event.

Don't be surprised if you hear a hearty "thanks." Many of these riders and walkers know that amateur radio is assisting with the event; they just haven't met any hams up front. Your professionalism and enthusiasm can do wonders for our community and help ensure that we are asked to help out the following year.

For the latest information on upcoming special events, tune in to our W9RH 147.045 repeater net on Friday night at 9:00 PM or the public service net on the 6.91 repeater on Sunday nights at 8:00 PM.



Tom - KF9PU

Silent Key

Harry Cieszki (k4VKW) let us know on the Milw/ Fla. net this morning (*1/31/02*) that (his XYL), Donna (N9NIT) passed away yesterday early evening at the hospital in Bradenton. She had a growth on her aorta had had been sick for the past 6 months.

Ed, KE9JJ

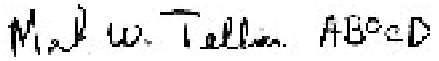
Field Day Tee's and pins

Field Day is just around the corner. The club will make a bulk order of shirts and pins to help save on shipping costs. Shirts are available in sizes M-XXL for $13.50 each. Pins are available for $5.25 each. Orders must be placed and PAID before the end of the May meeting.

The design for this year can be seen on page 128 of the March 2002 QST. Early orders are appreciated!

See Mark Tellier, AB9CD, at meetings, email at ab9cd@arrl.net or call (414)357-6522 between 7 and 10 pm.

Thanks



Sarah Parks-KB9ZNC to compete

Sarah Parks, KB9ZNC, will be representing CESA #1 at the Badger State Spelling Bee, April 6th in Verona.

Sarah, 14, spelled yeomanry and petrolage to win and qualify.

She is home-schooled.

Howard Parks - KB9VJS

Sue Wille's Request

Sue Wille has a request. Sue is trying to sell some of Ed wille's old equipment and it seems that she inadvertently spilled coffee on her only copy of the list with the names on it of people who expressed a desire to purchase some of his equipment.

So, if you did want some of this equipment, Please call Sue <u>again</u> at: 461-5961 or contact her by Email at sound-video-ser@prodigy.net

For Sale

40 foot steel Fold Down Tower

6 meter & 10 meter Beam-Rotor controlled

70 cm Virticle on side of tower

Approximately 15 to 20 years old

Owned by silent Key K9ZNL

Best offer takes all.

Call Ione at (262) 781-9284 to see tower.

EVENTS

* indicates Vec Testing

85th Anniversary Special Event
6:00 PM ON MARCH 15TH
TO 6:00PM ON MARCH 16TH

TOLEDO HAMFEST/COMPUTER FAIR
Sun. - Mar. 17, 2002
Lucas Co. Recreation Center
Maumee, OH
T/I on 147.27+ rptr

Lamars Fest *
SUN. - MAR. 24,2002
Lake County Fairgrounds
Grayslake, IL
T/I on 147.345 + .600 MHz
or 146.52 simp.

Madison Swapfest
SUN - APRIL 14,2002
Mandt Community Center
Stoughton Junior Fair Grounds
Stoughton, WI
T/I on 147.150 MHz rptr.

Superfest *
FRI. & SAT. - APRIL 5- & 6, 2002
at AES

Madison Swapfest
SUN - APRIL 14,2002
Mandt Community Center
Stoughton Junior Fair Grounds
Stoughton, WI
T/I on 147.150 MHz rptr.

Cedarburg Swapfest *
SAT. - MAY 4, 2002
Circle B Recreation Center
Cedarburg, WI
T/I on 146.37./969 (PL 127.3)

Princeton HamFest &
Computer Show
SUN. - JUN. 2, 2002
Bureau Co. Fairgrounds
Princeton, IL
T/I on 146.955 -.600 MHz (PL 103.5)

April		birthdate
Richard Lyon	WD9DNM	Apr - 02
Scott Frakes	AA9VC	Apr - 04
KateKedney	KA9MWT	Apr - 07
Delber Clark	KA9ZMK	Apr - 15
Ted Stiller	WA9RDI	Apr - 17
David J Janczak	KB9PRF	Apr - 18
Syl P.Janczak	WD9JKZ	Apr - 21
Robert Graushar	WA9TID	Apr - 22
Earl Winkel	KB9FUZ	Apr - 30

May		
James Fischer	W9LPF	May - 01
William Lubitz	W9EMC	May - 07
Mike McKenna	KB9MMI	May - 08
Fr William Kidd, S.J.	NE9W	May - 09
John Leekley	KA9DMP	May - 12
Ken Carus	KS4NX	May - 14
John Kraak	KF9XL	May - 14
Robert Hensiak	N9VTN	May - 16
Ken Eggert		May - 21
Ron Hagen	KB9KYI	May - 26
Jim Tromblay, Sr	WB9LNU	May - 27
Warren Schall	K9IZV	May - 29

¡¡ Happy Birthday !!

Please, use our Repeater.
Use it or lose it.
147.045 MHz + offset.

Meeting Schedule

Our Meeting schedule for the first six months of 2002 is as follows:

March28
Nominations April 25
Election of officers May 30
June 27

See you there!

Pancho - KA9OFA

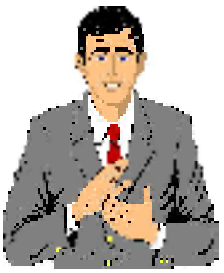
Credits

Our thanks to our news contributors this month:

WB9BWP	WB9LNU	KB9RLB
AB9CD	KF9PU	KB9VJS
KE9JJ	KB9Q	KF9XL
K9LCQ		

Thanks also to Mark Tellier - AB9CD, Armin Doneis III, and Rita Doneis for their help in the proof-reading dept. Our thanks goes to John Merkl and Norman Russell for making sure that the 'Chatter gets printed, stamped, and mailed.

Thanks also to Alfred Huwald and Myron Hendrickson for obtaining and serving refreshments at our meetings.



Thanks also goes to Tom Sherlowsky and Jacquie Horwitz for taking care of the raffle at the meetings.

Special thanks to all of our officers (past and present) who have tirelessly toiled for the good of the Club and Amateur Radio in general.

Many Thanks!

M.R.A.C.

Meetings are held the last Thursday of each month except in December. The next meeting is;

Thursday - March 28, 2002.

at 7:00 PM at:

Redemtion Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall

4057 N. Mayfair Rd.

(Use the south entrance)

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

Please! Don't call the Church for information!

Attention!!!

Due to Testing at Super Fest In April, There will be NO Testing in March

Celebrating 85 Years!

Have you used our Repeater, lately?
Use it or lose it.
147.045 MHz + offset.

Visit our Website

http://www.qsl.net/mrac/

M.R.A.C.
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Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club
P.O.Box 070695
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695

Phone (262) 797-MRAC -- Use Our Club Repeater 147.045 + offset Volume 10 No. 2 - March, '02